

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE DAY NOVEMBER 19, 2008

- WHEREAS,** *Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, is a group of chronic lung diseases including emphysema and chronic bronchitis that make breathing difficult. In 2007, COPD was the fourth leading cause of death in Maryland with over 1800 Maryland deaths; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The general well-being and sound health of Marylanders is strengthened and nurtured by prevention of smoking, smoking cessation, and appropriate treatment and management of COPD by a healthcare provider; and*
- WHEREAS,** *COPD is under-recognized and under-treated. Between 9% and 30% of patients could be undiagnosed despite having history of tobacco use or prolonged exposure to second-hand smoke and chronic productive cough or breathlessness; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is pleased to join with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to create awareness among Maryland citizens about chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and to encourage them to take measures to ensure their good health by not smoking and discussing symptoms of prolonged coughing and breathlessness with their health care provider.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim NOVEMBER 19, 2008 as CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE DAY in Maryland, and do commend this celebration to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 19th day of November
Two Thousand and eight



Martin O'Malley
Governor
Robert Ehrlich
Lt. Governor
John C. McQuinn
Secretary of State